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PATENT  
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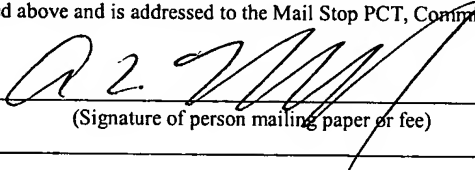
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Richard Schmidt et al.  
U.S. Serial No. : Unknown  
Int'l. Ser. No. : PCT/EP2003/007233  
Filed : 7 July 2003  
Priority date : 9 July 2002  
Title : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCING A BLANK MOLD  
FROM SYNTHETIC QUARTZ GLASS BY USING A PLASMA-  
ASSISTED DEPOSITION METHOD

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December 21, 2004  
Date

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above application as follows: